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Approved For Release 2002/01/15 : CIA-RDP79R00890A000600020034-2

HSC BRIEFING

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27 July 1955

*See Bulletin may  
be made in  
morning*

COMMENT ON SUMMIT MEETING

*Good deal will  
not be used*

1. As yet, no significant interpretive Soviet comment which would give clue to policy is coming months. Press and radio have covered conference developments fully, but comment has been confined to statements of satisfaction over friendly atmosphere created at Geneva.

A. Bulganin and Khrushchev stopped Berlin on way home, reaffirmed Soviet policy on Germany.

1. Bulganin - "Any solution of German problem must take into consideration opinion" of both East and West Germany. Progress toward unity depends on a "mutual approach between the two parts of Germany."

2. Khrushchev (26 July) emphasized "political and social achievements" and "democratic reforms" of East Germany could not be abolished in any unified Germany.

B. Such statements intended to reassure nervous East German leaders about negotiations on Germany, either among four powers or in talks with Adenauer this fall.

C. Interesting to note that Ulbricht failed to appear at either of two recent visits Khrushchev and Bulganin to Berlin.

1. Ulbricht rumored fallen into disfavor with Kremlin because his opposition Soviet policies.

2. On other hand, may merely be ill or on vacation (same time last year, was on vacation, although fact not reported by East German press.

DOCUMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐

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NEXT REVIEW DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

AUTH: HR 70-2

DATE: 15 Jan 80

REVIEWER: 006514

Approved For Release 2002/01/15 : CIA-RDP79R00890A000600020034-2

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II. In Satellites, cumulative effect some recent Soviet moves (conclusion of Austrian treaty, overtures to Yugoslavia) wild hopes for Summit developments such as withdrawal Soviet troops from Hungary and Rumania, free elections, general neutralization.

A. No specific reports popular reaction to Summit yet received from any Satellite.

B. US legation Budapest, however, believes that feeling of depression is setting in among the Hungarian people, who had desperately pinned hopes on Summit.

1. Legation cites Bulganin's "emphatic" rejection of Satellite status as subject for conference agenda, and final communiqué's failure mention this subject, as undoubtedly "great disappointment" to majority Hungarians.

2. Legation believes "exaggerated pessimism" will follow previous "unfounded optimism."

3. UK legation Budapest has reported anti-British sentiment, stimulated by Eden's failure to support US stand on Satellites.

C. Among East German population, hopes not as extravagant as elsewhere in Satellites.

1. Just as German Commie leaders apprehensive over forthcoming visit Adenauer to Moscow, E. German people pinning most hopes there.

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III. Communist China's only reaction to date confined to official People's Daily, which calls for "further efforts to develop the positive achievements" of Summit talks, but "deplores failure to discuss Far Eastern questions."

A. Says "peoples of all countries understandably gratified" by results. "Bad atmosphere" of cold war changing, "beginning of new phase in relations among big powers;" (same phrase Pravda used). Geneva directive "cleared way for further discussion and solution of urgent international questions."

1. However, failure to discuss Far Eastern issues "very regrettable," particularly lack of action on "Pernosa situation and obstructions to carrying out Geneva agreements on Indochina..."

B. Overall ChiCom comment follows Soviet line in approving results of Summit talks but shows greater disappointment than have Soviets' in scanty attention paid to Far Eastern issues.

1. Since international conference or conferences seem to offer Communists best opportunity for mobilizing political pressure against US on Far Eastern issues, ChiComs can be expected to keep idea alive, call for conference officially some time in next months.

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